

Correspondence of the Perrysburg Journal.

ST. PAUL, M. T., May 22, 1854.

MR. CLARK: In my letter of the 16th inst. I gave you an account of my route here, with a few brief observations. I intended to have taken an exploring tour before this, but as yet have been but a little distance: reasons would be of but little consequence to you, and still less to your readers.

St. Paul is certainly a place of a good deal of business, and it has the appearance of that of a healthful kind. They claim a population of 5000, and there is no reason to suppose that they would wish to under-estimate; but, looking at the city from the bluffs in various parts, and from the river, and from passing through the streets, I should have thought the estimate too low by at least 30 per cent. As an evidence of the business of the place and the public spirit of the citizens, I refer you to the simple fact that four daily papers have been started this month, one of which I sent you last week. In a country so new it would seem almost impossible that they should find support; and in any other place this side the Rocky Mountains they would not; but I am not certain that they will not here. The march of everything is onward! There is no such word as *can't* to be found in the Minnesotian dictionary. To talk to the people here about failing, is opening up a subject of which they have heard at a distance, but they don't think that it belongs in this latitude. Rising in the short period of seven years from a mere trading post, with a few log shanties, (and that too principally since the territorial government was established here in 1819) to her present importance as a commercial city, the inhabitants think that nothing above St. Louis can rival her in future growth and trade. Thus far they have gone beyond their own anticipations, and I have no doubt that, without any reference to ultimate greatness, they will yet shoot ahead for some time to come. The great emigration here during the navigating season of the year, necessarily scatters much money, and infuses life and vigor into business. Besides, the disbursements of the general government are of no small account. In addition to the maintenance of three forts, with their garrisons, and the support of the territorial government, about \$200,000 are annually paid out to the Indians. These disbursements have aided the enterprising emigrants to St. Paul in building her up. It is but justice to say that everything about the city wears the mark of industry and enterprise, and, I may safely add, a wholesome state of moral feeling is apparent. I have seen but one man in a state of intoxication, and have heard but one man use profane language since I have been here. Both are no doubt practiced, but certainly much less than in most other cities of the same size, or they could not escape the observation of strangers. The institutions of religion are numerous here; the churches are numerous, and appear to be well attended. Things wear a quiet aspect on the Sabbath. The city is full of strangers, and those who do not attend religious services, seem to be aware that they cannot be tolerated, as in some places they are, in noise and tumult. Another fact which speaks highly for the character of the emigration is, that the Temperance House is most earnestly sought, and constantly kept full and overflowing, many preferring it being obliged to seek other quarters.

The schools, although not provided with a public fund as we in Ohio have, to keep them up the greater part of the year, are, as I am told, well sustained. Miss Harriett E. Bishop, the pioneer teacher, who came here in July, 1847, still continues to teach, and sustains the reputation which she has always had, of being at the head of her profession.

The state house is a noble structure, of brick. The churches are generally neat and respectable in appearance, but look as if they had been built in a hurry. A number of stores are well built of brick, three and four stories high; but the most of them have been put together hastily. A large and elegant tavern house has lately been built, aside from the business part of the city, but is not yet occupied for that purpose. In the outskirts of the city are many private residences erected, and the yards enclosed with a good deal of taste.

The country around St. Paul is but thinly settled, the lands in market unfortunately having mostly fallen into the hands of speculators. The soil up the river (10 miles) to St. Anthony's Falls, is mostly a rolling prairie, of black sandy loam. But a small portion is cultivated; where it is, the farms look well. Several fields of spring wheat showed to good advantage. Winter wheat has not been sufficiently tried to test the practicability of cultivating it to advantage. But few fruit trees have been put out; the climate certainly must be well adapted to apples, although too cold for peaches. The excuse for this neglect is, that people have been too much engaged in land speculations to attend to such small matters as cultivating fruit trees.

The soil, as you approach the Falls of St. Anthony, and in the immediate vicinity of the village, is of a lighter sand than between that point and St. Paul. The falls fully answer the most sublime description which I had ever read. The sullen roar of the water over the cataract becomes a grand reality, filling the beholder with awe and reverence for this sublime specimen of God's works. The village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river, extending nearly two miles, about equal distance up and down from the falls. The town is neatly built, with framed buildings, generally painted. The stores are of good size, the dwellings mostly of small or convenient size for families. Much more attention is paid to gardening here than in St. Paul. A little commencement, I saw, had been made towards the cultivation of fruit and shade trees. A population of 2500 is claimed here, and from appearances I should judge it to be about one-third as large as St. Paul. The water power here is sufficient to turn all the spindles at Lowell, and as much more as you please. At present there are eight saws under one roof, one grist-mill, and one sash-factory, in operation. Three islands lie in the channel of the river just above the falls. A bridge is now building across to the lower end of the upper one. A small steamboat runs above the falls to Sauk rapids, 90 miles. The inhabitants of St. Anthony think that they are in about the prettiest place in the world, and they are nearly half right; but I cannot see anything short of some new manufacturing establishment, or some other great improvement, which will much increase their population. The country on the opposite side of the river, down to Fort Snelling (7 miles), is rolling prairie, very handsome, and most of the way enclosed and cultivated. New and neat framed houses are erected. Opposite St. Anthony the town of Minneapolis is laid out, the temporary seat of justice of the county of Hennipen. This is altogether a squatter operation, as the land has not yet been brought into market. There are two weekly papers published at St. Anthony. Fort Snelling is a high and commanding position at the junction of the Minnesota with the Mississippi.

Taxation.

The auditor of state reads the people a lecture upon the obtuseness of the legislature of 1852 by whom the tax law was passed; charging that the "tenth section" was the result of their "oversight and want of consideration!" A wise man is Mr. Morgan! He undertakes the gratuitous task of making the decision of the court "go down" with the people, by sugar-coating it with a parcel of his usual flummery about "equal rights," "protection of the law," &c.—all which is comparatively harmless. In the next place, Mr. Morgan has taken upon himself the task of doing up a little chore of legislation which the general assembly, in its haste, neglected to do. He has PASSED A LAW, prescribing that every man in the state must swear or affirm, that in listing his property for taxation, he has not deducted his debts from his moneys and credits! If this be not gross assumption of power, it would be difficult to fix limits to the state auditor's legal prerogatives. Nowhere can any warrant be found for such an oath in the laws of the general assembly. The tax law requires persons to make out and hold in readiness for the assessor, "a statement of their personal property, moneys and credits, &c., which, by the provisions of this act he is required to list for

taxation." This statement the law requires to be "verified by oath or affirmation." The form of the "verification" is not prescribed and each one may choose such a form as he pleases, provided it amounts to a verification. But Mr. Morgan, probably believing that the new state of things produced by the action of the supreme court needed legislation to give effect to the decision, and that the general assembly had again been guilty of "oversight," boldly steps forward and interpolates upon the statute of 1852 the following oath, which at least has the merit of being a *clinger* upon the poor taxpayer:

"And I do FURTHERMORE solemnly declare and affirm that in listing my moneys and credits I have made no deduction therefrom on account of any indebtedness for which I am liable."

As the auditor of state has clearly no power to compel the people to take such an oath, it will not be submitted to in many parts of the state. A storm of indignation exists in Hamilton county in consequence of the arrogant assumption of this officer. A thousand of the principal men and firms of the city have signed a pledge to resist this usurpation of power. The auditor says a refusal to take the new oath will subject all persons so refusing to a penalty of fifty per cent. If he is sustained in this, we do not see what use there will be in having any more legislatures while Morgan lives; for it would be an useless expenditure of the people's money to pay one or two hundred men for doing, *biennially*, what this gentleman manifests such an aptness for doing to order any day in the week.—[Sandusky Register.]

A STATE CONVENTION OF THE PEOPLE.—The Cleveland Herald proposes holding a State Convention of the people, on the 17th of June, (Bunker Hill day,) 4th of July, or the 13th day of July, the anniversary of the passage of the Ordinance of '87, to give utterance to the indignation which everywhere pervades the people of the State for the passage of the bill repealing the Missouri Compromise. We second the motion. We hope it will be held at Columbus on the 13th of July—a most fitting anniversary to consider the deep wrong inflicted upon the free States by the passage of the Nebraska bill. Let it not be a Convention for mere talk and resolutions, but a meeting to act—on nominations for State officers—of men who will respect the true feeling of Ohio upon this subject. Let it be a meeting which will unite all the opponents of the Nebraska wrong, all the friends of Northern rights, and the enemies of doughfaces. Let it be a meeting to organize for the coming contest—a contest which involves the question, whether there is a North or not!—[Cincinnati Gaz.]

Aye! Aye!

The Next Step.

Before the Nebraska bill has even been officially signed, Senator Douglas rises to propose the next step, in the march of slave supremacy. He suggests that the Senate appoint a committee "to inquire into the expediency of recognizing the independence of Dominica, and the opening with that republic of diplomatic relations."

Where and what is Dominica? The Island of St. Domingo is divided between two governments. The eastern half known as Hayti, belonging to the free blacks. The western half is Dominica, a slave-holding republic of French and Spanish Creoles. The boundary between them is unsettled—indeed for the past few years they have been almost constantly at war. Either of them that could obtain our countenance would gladly destroy the other. The United States have never recognized the independence, or even existence of Hayti. Its blackness and freedom have been insurmountable obstacles to friendly relations, as they have in the case of Liberia. If, therefore, we publicly make friends with the Dominicans, there will be a chance to lend them help enough to master their black neighbors, and when that is done, we have only to offer them annexation. The Dominicans would be overjoyed at the prospect, and we should gain a new slave state, admirably adapted to the production of sugar and cotton—population 1,000,000, or about that of Virginia,

entitling it, under the three-fifth rule to two Senators and thirteen Representatives.

If we acknowledge the independence of one-half of the Island, why not of the other? That would disarm the proposition of all that makes it unfair, and probable of all that makes it acceptable to Mr. Douglas.

Those who tell us that "agitation" will die out, now that the Nebraska bill is passed, will not let the prediction be fulfilled if they can help it. That measure is but one of the series. The others are to be brought forward in quick succession. Our submission to one is only the prelude to another. The north is to have no alternative. There is no middle course of peace and acquiescence. It must be resistance to the whole or submission to the whole, complete and unconditional.—[Albany Journal.]

TASTE BEFORE EXTRAVAGANCE.—Somebody has said that a Parisian grizette, with a little tulle and ribbon, will conquer the world, while an English woman, with all her shawls, damasks and diamonds, looks only like an animated clothes-horse. There is some exaggeration in this statement, but more wit and still more truth. The women of France unquestionably have a better taste in dress than those of Great Britain or even America. In both our mother country and this, there is too much of what may be called "snobism" in female attire. The ladies of Anglo Saxondom seem to fancy that the more they spend on dress the prettier they look. Accordingly, one sees little women covered all over with lace, or buried in the middle of stiff brocade, or almost lost to sight under a puffing velvet cloak, with caps that extend on either side like gigantic wings. Or one beholds tall women, if such is the fashion, tricked out in tight sleeves, and striped silks, the costliness of the material being regarded, by the wearer, as sufficient compensation for the incongruity of the style.

A French servant girl, even, has better taste. She knows it is not so much the richness of the material, as the way it is made up, and the manner in which it is worn, that gives the desired air of elegance. A neat fit, graceful bearing, and a proper harmony between the complexion and the colors, has more to do with heightening female attractions than even American ladies seem particularly to comprehend. Many a wife looks prettier, if she would but know it, in her neat morning frock of calico, than in the incongruous pile of finery which she dignifies with the title of full dress. Many an unmarried female first wins the heart of her future husband, in some simple, unpretending attire, which, if consulted about, she would pronounce too cheap for ordinary wear, but which by its accidental suitability to her figure, face and carriage, idealize her youth and beauty wonderfully. If the sex would study taste in dress more, and care less for mere expense, they would have no reason to regret it. At present the extravagance of American females in their dress is proverbial. We wish we could say as much of their elegance in the same line.—[Ledger.]

LAWS OF OHIO—Published Officially.

[100] AN ACT

To regulate the fees of Clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That the Clerks of the several Courts of Common Pleas, and District Courts of this State, shall, for services hereinafter specified, when rendered, receive the fees hereinafter provided, and no more.

SEC. 2. For docketing each case in appearance docket, ten cents; for indexing each case insane, direct and reverse, ten cents; for entering the voluntary appearance of plaintiffs and defendants, ten cents each; for filing each precept pleading, writ, order, deposition, undertaking, bond, notice, verdict, transcript, exhibit, warrant of attorney, indictment, affidavit, bill of exceptions, or other necessary documents, five cents; for taking each affidavit, fifteen cents; for issuing each summons, summons in error, notice capias, or order of arrest, order of delivery, order of attachment, order of injunction, mandamus, mandate, execution, habeas cor-